

Store Open Daily Until 6 P. M.



## Miller & Rhoads

### The "Big 4"

Among Popular Gift Suggestions:

**Kid Gloves!**  
**Silk Hosiery!**  
**Handkerchiefs!**  
**Books!**

With the approach of the "Eleventh Hour" the belated gift-seeker need not feel that "she" or "he" must simply take "what's left." Many lines of Christmas holiday giveables at the "Shopping Center" are still intact, affording excellent selections for gifts, it matters not for whom they are intended, or what amount of money one desires to pay.

Mention of the "Big Four" is made, however, in the hope that it will attract the eyes of those whose time is limited; who cannot spend time in looking around; to whom EVERY MINUTE COUNTS!

#### Silk Hosiery

is more popular to-day than it has ever been. More in evidence than formerly, it has become an essential feature of Milady's outfit, and pretty Silk Hosiery either in some of the smart novelty effects or plain colors to match the footwear or costume—is desired in generous quantities.

Our this year's selections of women's Silk Hosiery have been the subject of much favorable comment, and sales of them for gifts have been enormous.

#### Handkerchiefs

—useful, dainty little squares of cotton, linen or silk, adorned, many of them, with filmy lace or handlike embroidery—a WONDERFUL ASSORTMENT! No one but what needs Handkerchiefs, it matters not how many they now have, and they are universally popular for gift-giving.

Handkerchiefs, singly or in pretty Xmas boxes, for women and children, among which are a number of the most attractive values we've ever shown.

#### Kid Gloves

for the woman or miss. Can you think of any one thing that's more useful than GOOD GLOVES? Note that we lay emphasis on the word "good," for it is QUALITY that our Gloves excel.

Look for all the most fashionable Gloves here—black and correct colorings—in kinds suitable for all occasions.

#### Books! Books!

There's always a place and time for a good Book—and a book is a particularly welcome messenger; of friendship or love. No wonder that our Book Shop is the center of such animation, such activity, these days; our collection of Holiday Gift Books surpasses all our previous efforts, both in attractiveness and variety. For father, mother, brother, sister, sweetheart or friend, on down to the tiniest of the kiddies, rest assured that we have "just the right Book!"

MILLER & RHODS.

## CHRISTMAS EVE TO SEE SHOPPING SATURNALIA

Belated Gift-Buyers Promise to Set New Record To-Day for Business.

### SPRIT OF GIVING IS ABROAD

Eleventh-Hour Rush for Holiday Supplies Will Bring to Climax Biggest Winter Season Since Prodigal Year of 1913.

As the climax of the busiest pre-holiday season that Richmond merchants have known since the prodigal year of 1913, to-day will witness a mad Saturnalia of shopping. Despite the shop early mottoes that have admonished people since the first nip of cold weather, a vast bulk of gifts remain still unthought and Christmas Eve, 1915, will see a sprightly last-minute scramble.

In the retail district yesterday the sightseers and shoppers choked the sidewalks and shops with the largest crowd of the holiday season. It reached its high tide in the mid-afternoon, surging in a dense mass from shop to shop. Later in the day it was augmented by the matinee crowds. It was estimated that not less than 30,000 people poured into the Broad and Main Street retail districts yesterday during the shopping hours.

### TRADE IN EVERGREENS

#### BEACONS HIGH WATER MARK

The trade in cedars, holly and mistletoe reached its high mark. From Broad to Marshall, Sixth Street was banked in both sides with greenery and flowers. For half a century or more this particular day of the year the removal of curb dealers in flowers and potted plants. The bright red, white and yellow of Christmas flowers against a background of forest green buried the blocks under a mass of color around which hovered all day a swarm of buyers—like so many bees.

One of the factors that contribute to the high-pressure shopping that has been the rule all this week, is that all of the large stores are closed in the evening. Formerly, the shops kept open house until 10 o'clock at night during the week before Christmas. The uncompromising stand of the State Department Labor against the working of stores more than ten hours a day, even during the holiday rush, has operated to close most of the larger stores by 6:30 o'clock.

Behind closed doors, the male employees of the stores worked until late in the night to restore to semblance of order the havoc that had been wrought during the day by hungry shoppers. The only places open were the jewelry, stationery and specialty shops and a few of the clothing stores.

### FESTIVE AIR PRECEDES

#### YEARS GREATEST HOLIDAY

To-day the city will take on the festive air that precedes the year's greatest holiday. There will be the usual undignified scramble to lay in gifts with which to discharge obligations that develop in unexpected quarters. The friend who had been entirely forgotten in making up the lists comes across with something expensive and straightaway there is embarrassment and a hasty trip to the stores.

Down town, where the tall buildings rise from narrow streets, the denizens of the offices will descend in a body upon convenient candy and men's wear shops, where they will buy things for the boys who watch and offices, for the girls who preside at the switchboards, for the typists, secretaries, clerks, for the typists, secretaries, clerks, who have shared their labors during the year.

The Christmas spirit has been abroad for many days now. In different quarters it has manifested itself in different ways. The elevator boys have become more obliging. They even stop at the right doors. The Christmas spirit has meant a renaissance of politeness along the line. Little Miss Richmond has abjured the movies and taken to helping around the house. Kid brother has sprouted wings. For the season of giving is on hand, and, according to orthodox doctrine, only the good will be rewarded.

### POLITENESS HAS COME

#### INTO FASHION AGAIN

In insurance offices and banks it is the same. The blonde typist has been coming to work five minutes ahead of schedule for many days, and her transcribing has been nearly perfect. Office managers have many days ago discovered unsounded depths of wit in the prosaic speech of employees. Clerks have taken to appreciating the rare humor of office managers. The Christmas spirit is abroad.

Despite a leaning toward the spiritual which some scholars have discerned, the age is predominantly material. Christmas has traveled far from its primitive observance as a day of purely religious rejoicing. To-day it means fireworks, colored lights, baskets of fruit, dwarf cedars, and toys and holly and holly-holly.

Nevertheless, it's a rare holiday and Richmond will be abroad early and late to-day to lay in the fixings. Thousands of waifs and children of the poor will be clad to-morrow by the work of the city's St. Nicholas, who will put in to-day. And to-night the whole town will migrate to the Ford lot to see the city's third community Christmas tree, and to hear 1,000 young throats declare peace on earth and good will toward men.

### ATTEMPTED MURDER

Hustings Court Jury Gives William Jones Six Months' Jail Sentence.

William Jones was found guilty in the Hustings Court yesterday of attempt at murder in the second degree, and his punishment was fixed by the jury at six months in jail. A motion to set aside the verdict was overruled. Counsel for defendant filed exceptions to the ruling and instructions.

The indictment under which Jones was tried, charged him with attempting to murder David Katz on November 12.

### LIME BOARD MEETS

Congestion Relieved and Increased Facilities Provided at State Plant.

The State Council Lime Board met yesterday afternoon in the office of Governor Stuart and transacted business in connection with the financial and operating affairs of the State lime grinding plant at Staunton. The new secretary of the board, Willard C. Williams, sat with the body for the first time. The lime grinding plant has been working in full blast for some months, and there is a longer and more regular flow of orders. With the beginning of the new year the facilities for handling a greater volume of orders for lime will be substantially increased.

## Chief Werner Is Hurt in Collision

Slightly Injured When Car on Broad Street Crashes Into Another Trolley.

Major Louis Werner was slightly injured about 11 o'clock last night, when Broad and Twenty-fifth Street car, No. 529, crashed into the rear of Broad and Main Street car, No. 124, at Lombardy and Broad Streets. Major Werner was hurled to the floor of the car, together with John Middett, a small boy, but was able to rise and go to his home.

Motorman W. C. Hart, of the Broad and Twenty-fifth Street car, said last night that Motorman P. T. Fletcher, of the other car, had started away from Lombardy Street and had then stopped. He said that he was following the other car, and that when he saw it start away from Lombardy Street he supposed it would continue on its way, but it crashed into the car ahead before he was able to stop it.

With the impact of the collision, Major Werner and Middett were hurled in a heap to the floor of their car. Conductor C. E. Wallace was knocked against the back door with considerable force, while Motorman Hart was hurled against the side of the front platform, surging in a dense mass from shop to shop. Later in the day it was augmented by the matinee crowds. It was estimated that not less than 30,000 people poured into the Broad and Main Street retail districts yesterday during the shopping hours.

The noise of the collision aroused firemen at West Broad Street Engine House, and a number of them hurried to the street. Policemen Holt and Schief, who were in the neighborhood, were on the scene shortly after the crash and made a report of the accident to the Second Precinct Station. Both of the cars were damaged, but traffic was delayed only a few minutes.

### ADULTERATED FOOD

Several Fines Are Imposed on Local Merchants in Cases Brought by State Inspectors.

Upholding F. C. Brezel, of the State Dairy and Food Commission, in his efforts to protect foodstuffs offered for the use of Richmond schools, Justice Crutchen yesterday imposed fines of \$5 on several merchants brought before him on charges of offering adulterated foodstuffs for sale, and with failure to supply adequate protection from dust and dirt.

W. S. Flournoy, manager of the Adams Grain and Provision Company, charged with having a lot of adulterated oats in his possession; Moses Seal, of the Seal-Johnson and Furniture Company, charged with having misbranded and adulterated molasses; C. P. Duke, of the Southern Birch Box Company, charged with having misbranded and adulterated soda water; and John Kosma, charged with failing to protect foodstuffs from contamination, were the men fined. Several other cases were continued.

### SALE OF RED CROSS SEALS

School Children Make New High Record in Aid of War on Tuberculosis.

Analysis of the returns of sales of Red Cross Christmas seals in the Richmond public schools during Tuberculosis Week show that the following classes sold each \$10 worth or more of the seals:

Fairmount School—4B grade, \$10.  
Nicholson School—7A grade, \$25.63.  
Bimford School—1A1, \$16.77; 1A3, \$16.75; 1A7, \$12.52; 2A1, \$11.51; 2B2, \$14.52; 2B3, \$14.52.  
John Marshall High School—2A4, \$11.43.  
Fox School—3B2, \$37.75.  
Baker School (colored)—5A, \$17.75.

The workers for the local sale of seals have not yet caught their breath over the unexpected success of the campaign. Considering that this is the first year this work has been done in the schools, it is believed Richmond has made a record that will compare with that of any city. Full credit is given to the magnificent co-operation given by City School Superintendent J. A. C. Chandler and the principals and teachers, who worked earnestly for a large sale.

### Fined for Disorder

Eddie Harris, colored, was yesterday fined \$5 and costs and placed under a bond of \$50 to keep the peace for six months by Magistrate H. S. Sunday, of Henrico, for disorderly conduct on the Richmond College grounds. He was arrested by Policeman A. W. Goolsby.

### WILL GIVE AWAY FLOUR

Home Furnishing Corporation Offers Custom Established Years Ago in Distribution to Poor.

In keeping with its annual custom, the Home Furnishing Corporation will give away to deserving families 600 bags of flour at its store, 303-5 West Broad Street. Cards have been distributed to the distribution, which will be conducted from 9 until 9:30 o'clock Christmas morning. This will mark the tenth annual distribution of flour by this corporation. The cards have been distributed by the corporation and its employees, Ernest E. Straus, J. C. Lehman, M. F. Boltzheim, W. C. Hazard, J. A. Yates, J. H. Jonesoff, P. C. Wilson, E. E. Moore and H. Fink.

## COMMUNITY CELEBRATION TAKES PLACE TO-NIGHT

Giant Cedar Tree Has Been Placed on Ford Lot Opposite City Hall.

### LARGE CHOIR TO SING CAROLS

John Marshall High School Cadets Will Make First Public Appearance in March to Tree, Where Boy Scouts Will Be on Guard.

With ideal weather promised and the stage set in an appropriate manner, a great gathering of Richmond people is expected at 6 o'clock this evening when the third annual Community Christmas Tree exercises occur around the beautifully-decorated cedar on the Ford lot opposite the City Hall.

Promptly upon the stroke of the clock, the first carol will ring out, and for half an hour the audience will be entertained with music and folk-dancing, and a tableau carried out by the city school children.

### HANDSOME CEDAR TREE

#### IS READY IN PLACE

The tree is located upon the Ford lot, on the corner of Eleventh and Broad Streets, just east of the City Hall. It stands near the sidewalk and the large lot is being made use of for the stands. On the lower side, though, near the center of the lot, there is a large stand erected for Kessinger's Band. In line with the tree and the City Hall is the large stand for the folk-dancing and tableau, while against the walls in the back of the lot a large stand has been erected to accommodate a thousand or more singers.

Walter C. Mercer, musical director of the public schools of Richmond, who has charge of the musical program for the evening, announced last night that there would be no set program, but that there would be a number of Christmas carols, a tableau "The Birth of the Savior," and folk-dancing. He stated that the carols would alternate with the other events upon the program and that the whole would last about thirty minutes.

The cadet corps of the John Marshall High School will march for the first time in public in the parade. The cadets will start at Second and Broad Streets and proceed down Broad Street to the Christmas tree. About 250 students are expected to be in line.

### BOY SCOUTS WILL GUARD

#### SPACE ABOUT TREE

The Boy Scouts will police the grounds about the exercise, showing the crowds where to stand and assisting in every way possible in making the program a success. The Scouts have already roped off a space about the tree and stands and will patrol this space while the exercises are in progress.

To the Boy Scouts also has been assigned the task of distributing the stockings and many citizens have loaned to the Scouts for this purpose. As yet, however, the Scouts are not sufficiently supplied with cars. The stockings are to be delivered today and anyone who will furnish a motor car can notify Mrs. J. H. Capers, Jr., chairman of the automobile committee. Her home is in the Hanover Apartments.

The Christmas tree is a fine specimen, thirty or forty feet in height. Upon a root, ten feet higher than the trunk, is a large, electrically-lighted star. The City Electrical Department decorated the tree.

### LARGE CHOIR TO

#### RENDER CHRISTMAS CAROLS

That there will be a large choir was the announcement made last night by Mr. Mercer. Already many have asked for tickets of admittance to the choir stand, and there is a probability that more will desire to take part in the singing than can be accommodated. Members of church choirs or any others who sing are asked to take their place on the stand and assist.

Chairman John T. Wilson and Treasurer D. W. Durrett announced that the public has responded liberally to the call and should be congratulated for their liberality. In case there are any others who desire to help the fund they may send the contribution to J. W. Durrett, at the American National Bank.

### SCHEDULE CHANGED

Business Men Going to Hopewell Will No Longer Be Able to Use 9 O'Clock Express.

A change in the schedule of the Petersburg-Hopewell train over the Norfolk and Western Railway was announced yesterday from the local office of the road. Commencing Monday, December 27, the train that now leaves Petersburg for Hopewell at 9:40 o'clock will depart for the gunton city at 9 o'clock, an advance in the schedule of twenty minutes.

Business men of this city who have been accustomed to leave here on the 9 o'clock train, making connections with the Hopewell train at Petersburg, will have to use the train that leaves this city at 8:15 o'clock. The Hopewell train will not wait for the late train from Richmond.

## Another Day of Great Opportunities at Gans-Rady Company's

AT \$15.00—Men's Suits and Overcoats, worth up to \$22.50.

AT \$10.00—Young Men's Suits, worth up to \$18.00.

AT \$5.00—Boys' Suits and Overcoats, worth up to \$8.50.

AT \$1.95—Men's Soft and Stiff Hats, worth up to \$3.50.

AT \$1.15—Men's Soft and Stiff Bosom Shirts, worth up to \$3.00.

AT \$2.35—Raincoats, worth up to \$3.50.

AT \$2.95—Men's Rubber Coats, worth up to \$5.00.

Boys' Underwear at HALF PRICES.

AT \$1.15—Men's \$1.50 Tan Walking Gloves.

Open Late To-Night

## Gans-Rady Company

1005 East Main St.

Opposite Post-Office

### COMMENDS RAILROAD

Adjutant-General Sale Pleased With Expeditious Handling of Chase City Troops.

Adjutant-General Sale expressed much gratification yesterday at the expedition with which the Chase City military company, which relieved the Petersburg Grays of duty at Hopewell, was transported from the home station to the city. He was much pleased, too, with the "concorded" men demonstrated in getting ready for the trip in a limited space of time, and the splendid military bearing of the command.

The company was notified that it had been detailed for extra duty at Hopewell on Tuesday afternoon at 4 o'clock, and entrained on the Southern Railway the next morning at 11 o'clock. At Burkeville it was met by a second train on the Norfolk and Western, which carried it straight through to Hopewell, arriving there five hours and ten minutes after leaving the home station. At 5 o'clock the men had been assigned to guard duty.

Major E. W. Bowles, who has command of the troops in Hopewell, reported to General Sale yesterday that conditions there were satisfactory. The Chase City company will be on duty for an indefinite length of time—perhaps ten days or two weeks.

### OIL STOCKHOLDERS MEET

Ratify Action of Directors in Adding \$3,000,000 to Capital Stock.

The stockholders of the Pierce Oil Company met in Richmond yesterday to ratify action of the board of directors, taken on November 25, increasing the capital stock of the company from \$3,000,000 to \$3,000,000. Ross W. Lynn, of Van Vorst, Marshall & Smith, of New York, counsel for the company, and Hamilton H. Chalkley, of Norfolk, Hutton, Williams & Anderson, of this city, held proxies for more than two-thirds of the capital stock of the company, and voted to ratify the increase in capital. The additional stock is to provide for the conversion of the company's five-year 6 per cent convertible notes, which are to be dated January 1, 1916. The notes are convertible into Pierce oil stock at 20 cents per share. The bankers who have purchased them, there will be no public offering of the notes.

### CAPITOL CLOSING TO-DAY

Governor Stuart Goes North to Join His Family for the Holiday.

All offices of the State Government in Richmond will be closed for the Christmas holidays at noon to-day. Business will be practically suspended at the Capitol and State Library buildings until Monday morning. Governor Stuart will leave for Massachusetts to-night to spend Christmas with his wife and daughter. Most of the officers and employees of the Commonwealth living not far distant from the capital will emulate the example of the executive and join their families for the Yuletide celebration.

### AMUSEMENTS

ACADEMY, To-Night and Xmas SPECIAL CHRISTMAS MATINEE.

The Comic Opera Success, "The Choco'ate Soldier"

Prices, 50c to \$1.50.

**Rex Theater**  
TO-DAY  
"The Clean-Up"

Featuring WINIFRED GREENWOOD

"Cissy's Innocent Wink"

Featuring Cissy Fitzgerald

TO-MORROW, "Rags"

TO-MORROW, Francis X. Bushman

ISIS ADMISSION, 10c CHILDREN, 5c

TO-DAY, MARY PICKFORD IN

"Rags"

TO-MORROW, Francis X. Bushman

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### DRUGS MORE EXPENSIVE

Prices Continue To Advance and the End Is Not Yet in Sight.

Not only has the cost of living advanced rapidly since the outbreak of the European war, but the cost of medicines has also advanced. If the prices now prevailing in the drug market were called a part of keeping alive. Possibly in no other market have the prices risen so steadily and swiftly as in drugs. Druggists attribute this rise in price to the great demand on the battle fields and also the fact that the great German chemical plants are unable to get their output marketed in America with any degree of satisfaction.

Possibly the greatest single items in the advance lists are the bromides and potash salts. Bromides, formerly selling at twenty-five cents per pound, now sell for \$5.00 per pound, and the end seems not in sight. Potash salts sold before the war for 15 cents, and now bring \$5.00 the ton. Other drugs are also considerably advanced in price as compared with a year ago.

### AMUSEMENTS

**COLONIAL--To-Day**

William Fox Presents

William Farnum

IN

A Soldier's Oath

Performance Xmas Day Starts 9:30 A. M.

**VICTOR**

5c—ADMISSION—5c.

TO-DAY—

"DECEIVERS"

Vitaphone, Featuring Mr. and Mrs. Sidney Drew.

Other Comedies.

TO-MORROW—

"RED CIRCLE"

Featuring Ruth Roland and Frank Mayo.

See This Evening Saturday.

Pathe Weekly.

TO-DAY—

Douglas Fairbanks, in

"Double Trouble"

Fred Mace, in

"A JANITOR'S WIFE'S TEMPTATION"

PRICES:

Nights, 10c and 15c. Mats. 10c.

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